

## MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Announcing Approval of Final Data Standards for Date and SIC/NAICS and an Interim Data Standard for Latitude/Longitude

FROM: Alvin M. Pesachowitz  
Chief Information Officer

TO: Assistant Administrators  
General Counsel  
Inspector General  
Chief Financial Officer  
Associate Administrators  
Regional Administrators

I am pleased to announce the approval of the final data standards and business rules for Date and the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system and the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The adoption of these standards and their business rules furthers the goals of the Reinvention of Environmental Information (REI) Action Plan by defining and establishing standards and processes which will facilitate data sharing within Agency systems and between the Agency and its stakeholders, e.g., state and regulated community.

In addition, I would like to announce the adoption of an Interim Latitude/Longitude (Lat/Long) Data Standard. A Lat/Long work group has been convened to develop supporting business rules and it is envisioned that the rules and final standard will be promulgated early in 1999. The Lat/Long data standard represents a clarification and update of the Agency's existing locational data policy. We are eager to hear from States, the regulated community, environmental and public interest groups, and other interested parties on the structure and implementation of this interim standard. Specifics on the data standard can be found on the Agency's Web site at [www.epa.gov/edr](http://www.epa.gov/edr). Interested parties can also submit comments on the proposed standard via this Web site or they can be emailed directly to EPA's Information and Data Management Team at [Lewis.RobertL@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Lewis.RobertL@epamail.epa.gov).

All EPA data standards and their descriptive information, referred to as metadata, are stored in the Environmental Data Registry (EDR), the Agency's tool for recording data standards. It can be accessed from the web at [www.epa.gov/edr](http://www.epa.gov/edr). We recognize that as experience in the use of these standards is gained, refinements and changes will be required. We welcome comments on all EPA data standards and supporting business rules.

EPA's Reinventing Environmental Information Action Plan laid out an ambitious schedule for establishing data standards. We appreciate all of the support and goodwill across the Agency that is enabling us to meet the projected deadlines and offer to our customers more integrated information retrieval.

Attachments: Final Date Data Standard and Business Rules  
                    Final SIC/NAICS Data Standard  
                    Business Rules for Classification of Business Establishments  
                    Interim Lat/Long Data Standard

cc: Carol M. Browner  
Peter Robertson  
Margaret Schneider  
SIRMOs